Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANTO 04239 031521Z ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5547 INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL SANTO DOMINGO 4239

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, DR, BL

SUBJECT: BOLIVIAN DEVELOPMENTS

REF: STATE 192121

- 1. PRESIDENT-ELECT GUZMAN RECEIVED AMBASSADOR LAST NIGHT IN RESPONSE OUR REQUEST. HE HAS BEEN IN HIS HOME AREA, THE CIBAO, FOR THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS RENEWING CONTACTS AND PUTTING THE FINAL TOUCHES ON HIS CABINET (COMPOSITION OF WHICH IS STILL BEING CLOSELY HELD).
- 2. GUZMAN WAS MOST APPRECIATE OF BEING CONSULTED ON THE BOLIVIAN QUESTION. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE HEMISPHEREWIDE NATURE OF U.S. INTEREST IN ENCOURAGING DEMOCRATIC PROCESS AND NOTED HIS APPRECIATION OF THE IMPLICATIONS OF THIS PRESENT CONSULTATION ON BOLIVIA FOR THE CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE USG AND HIS GOVERNMENT.
- 3. ON SUBSTANCE, GUZMAN SAID THAT THE BOLIVIAN SITUATION WOULD NOT IN HIS OPINION AFFECT DOMINICAN DEVELOPMENTS IN ANY SIGNIFICANT WAY. DOMINICANS READ A LTTLE ABOUT BOLIVIA AND THE POLITICAL COGNOSCENTI FROM TIME TO TIME DRAW UNFAVORABLE COMPARISONS BETWEEN CURRENT POLITICAL CONFIDENTIAL

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DEVELOPMENTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING IN BOLIVIA. THE SITUATION HERE, HOWEVER, IS SUI GENERIS (HIS WORDS) AND WILL NOT NOW BE AFFECTED IN ONE WAY OR THE OTHER BY WHAT THE PRINCIPAL ACTORS IN BOLIVIA MAY DO.

4. GUZMAN THEN WENT ON TO SAY THAT HE FELT REASSURED AFTER HIS RECENT SESSIONS WITH THE DOMINICAN MILITARY

(S.D. 4075 AND 4138) AND THOUGHT THAT THINGS REMAINED UNDER CONTROL ON THAT SIDE. NIVAR WAS STILL A PROBLEM BUT HE CONTINUED TO THINK THIS WAS CONTAINABLE GIVEN THE ATTITUDES EVINCED BY OTHER OFFICERS LESS OBSTRUCTIVELY INCLINED. YOST

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